

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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TAGS: PFOR, US, UR

SUBJECT: PRESS SUMMARY, MAY 27

NYT (PAGE 3) HEADLINE "HELSINKI AWAITING EUROPEAN CONFEREES" BY CHRISTOPHER WREN, DATELINE HELSINKI, REPORTS KEKKONEN TOLD A NEWSMAN RECENTLY HE THOUGHT FIVE-DAY SESSION COULD STILL BE HELD IN JULY. IF JULY NOT FEASIBLE, MEETING MAY HAVE TO BE DELAYED UNTIL OCTOBER, ACCORDING TO A FINNISH DIPLOMAT.

SUN (PAGE 1) HEADLINE "SOVIET WOOING THAILAND - KEEPING UP WITH CHINA" BY MICHAEL PARKS, DATELINE MOSCOW. SOVIETS FOCUSING ON THAILAND AS KEY COUNTRY TO IMPROVE ITS POSITION INSOUTHEAST ASIA. MOSCOW OFFERING THAILAND THE "BALANCE" IT IS SEEKING TO OFFSET AMERICAN, CHINESE, AND JAPANESE INFLUENCE. ARTICLE CITES UNNAMED SOVIET COMMENTATORS, NEW TIMES ARTICLE AND UNNAMED ASIAN AMBASSADORS AS SOURCES. SOVIET ALSO WORKING TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH PHILIPPINES, INDONESIA, AND MALAYSIA, AND ALSO INCREASING AID TO VIETNAM TO SOLIDIFY ITS INFLUENCE
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THERE IN COMPETITION WITH CHINA.

SUN (PAGE 3) HEADLINE "MOSCOW MOVES TO CUT AUTONOMY OF PRESTIGIOUS ACADEMY OF SCIENCES" BY MICHAEL PARKS.

ACCORDING TO SOVIET SOURCES, PARTY ASSERTING AUTHORITY OVER THE ACADEMY AND KELDYSH WAS REPLACED AFTER HE REFUSED TO GO ALONG WITH RADICAL POLITICIZATION OF ACADEMY AND SOVIET SCIENCE, INCLUDING REPORTED PLANS FOR EXTENSIVE PERSONNEL CHANGES. SCIENTISTS AND OTHER INTELLECTUALS REPORTEDLY CONCERNED.

WP (PAGE 17) COLUMN BY JOSEPH KRAFT ENTITLED "A SUMMIT MEETING FOR CLICHES" REFERS TO THE NATO SUMMIT AND ASSERTS US AND FRIENDS CAUGHT UP IN A TWO-FRONT (EAST-WEST AND NORTH-SOUTH) STRUGGLE WITHOUT A TWO-FRONT STRATEGY. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, BLDD BOWLING ALONG WITH EVENTS ON BREZHNEV TIMETABLE (CSCE SUMMIT, FORD SUMMIT WITH SALT AGREEMENT AND GENEVA CONFERENCE) IS PLAINLY HAZARDOUS EXERCISE.

NYT, MAY 25 (PAGE 1) HEADLINE "SUBMARINES OF US STAGE SPY MISSIONS INSIDE SOVIET WATERS" BY SEYMOUR HERSH (ALSO STAR).

SUN, MAY 26 (PAGE 1) HEADLINE "KREMLIN ASSURED BY U.S. -- SOVIET DETENTE ANXIETY EASED BY KISSINGER" BY MICHAEL PARKS.

NYT, MAY 26 EDITORIAL ENTITLED "WHAT PRICE SECURITY?" ARGUES THERE SHOULD BE NO COMMITMENT TO A CSCE SUMMIT UNTIL DETENTE IS BACK ON TRACK.

WP, MAY 26 (PAGE 17) HEADLINE "SOVIET STANCE ON DETENTE -- NOT PULLING THE US TIGER'S TAIL" BY PETER OSNOS.

WP, MAY 26 BRIEF ITEM (PAGE 9) "TWO SOVIETS DOCK WITH SALYUT 4" (OTHER PAPERS ALSO).

SUN, MAY 26 ALSO HAS FOLLOWING ARTICLES: (PAGE 1) "NEW U.S. MINE COULD BLOCK SOVIET SUBMARINE ROUTES" REFERRING UNCLASSIFIED

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TO A NEW ANTI-SUBMARINE TORPEDO MINE CALLED CAPTOR; (PAGE 7) "RUSSIANS ALTER CRUISE PLANS" DISCUSSES CHANGES IN CRUISE PLANS OF SOVIET LINER LERMONTOV; (PAGE B1) "SOVIET NOW PRAISE PASTERNAK, BUT AS A POET, NOT NOVELIST." BY MICHAEL PARKS. INGERSOLL

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